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An Extension of the Serrin's Lower Semicontinuity Theorem

We present a new extension of a celebrated Serrin's lower semicontinuity theorem. We consider an integral of the calculus of variation $\int_{\Omega} f(x, u, Du) dx$ and we prove its lower semicontinuity in $W_{loc}^{1,1}(\Omega)$ with respect to the strong L_{loc}^1 norm topology, under the usual *continuity* and *convexity* property of the integrand $f(x, s, \xi)$, only assuming a mild (more precisely, *local*) condition on the independent variable $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$, say *local Lipschitz continuity*, which - we show with a specific counterexample - cannot be replaced, in general, by local *Hölder continuity*.

Keywords: Lower semicontinuity, strong convergence in L1, convex functions, local Lipschitz continuity, local Hölder continuity, calculus of variations.

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